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➤BOOK NOTICES.◀

[Any publication noticed in these pages may be obtained of the AMERICAN PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF HEBREW, Morgan Park, Ill.]

OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS.*

This is another of Cunningham Geikie's interesting and helpful contributions to biblical literature. Those who have read the *Life and Words of Christ*, or *Hours with the Bible* will hardly require an introduction to anything else coming from Dr. Geikie's pen. To those who have not the time to devote to the perusal of the large six volume work, *Hours with the Bible*, this single volume, selecting only the leading points and characters, will be a welcome help in the study of the Old Testament. In the form of brief monographs we have presented, in a clear life-like manner, prominent Bible characters all the way from Noah, and the other patriarchs, through the judges, kings and prophets of the chosen people. Of course, with so much ground to cover, it has been impossible to give that close and elaborate analysis of character and motive that would be desirable for critical purposes. To expect so much in the compass of 484 pages would be unreasonable. The sketches, while brief, are carefully and attractively written, and the treatment of character candid and impartial, as far as it goes. They are not isolated, but follow the development of the national history, an order which is helpful in obtaining a correct historical perspective. Where light can be thrown on the narrative from the results of modern research, as from the history, customs and manners of not only the Israelite, but the Assyrian and Egyptian, such light is furnished, or the references where it can be found. Besides, there are seventy-one illustrations of eastern customs, manners and places interspersed through the book, which add to its interest and value. The book is well worth having to those who have not the time or taste for the fuller and more comprehensive work.

There is no harm in the wish expressed in the preface that the book should be adopted for the use of senior classes in our higher educational institutions, nor in ours, that such institutions and classes may find time for something more critical and satisfactory. It is an admirable book for the parlor and home.

JUKE'S MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM.†

The first chapter of this book is devoted to proving that there does exist a "mystic sense" in Scripture, and to explaining the character of the same. We have no words with which to describe the feelings aroused by the reading of this discussion. Nor can we understand why a book of such a character should reach a *third* edition. The system of interpretation will better be learned from the author's own words:

* OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS by C. Geikie, D. D., Author of "Life and Words of Christ," "Hours with the Bible," &c., &c. With seventy-one illustrations. New York: James Pott & Co., Astor Place. 1885. Price, \$1.50.

† THE MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM, traced through the Four Books of Kings. By Andrew Jukes. Part I. The First Book of Kings. Third edition. 8vo, pp. 125. New York: Thomas Whittaker. Price, \$1.00.